

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

# HOUSE BILL NO. 1710

## 91ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVES BOYKINS, HILGEMANN, SHELTON, WALTON,  
HAYWOOD, CARNAHAN AND JOHNSON (61) (Co-sponsors).

Read 1<sup>st</sup> time January 30, 2002, and 1000 copies ordered printed.

TED WEDEL, Chief Clerk

3649L.011

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## AN ACT

To amend chapter 161, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to urban teaching scholarships.

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*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:*

Section A. Chapter 161, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be  
2 known as section 161.416, to read as follows:

**161.416. 1. There is hereby established the "Urban Flight Scholarship Program"**  
2 **to be administered by the department of elementary and secondary education. As used in**  
3 **this section, the term "eligible student" shall mean an individual who is enrolled in a**  
4 **Missouri metropolitan or urban school district with a high "at-risk student population",**  
5 **as shall be defined by the department of elementary and secondary education by rule. Any**  
6 **rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in section 536.010, RSMo, that is created**  
7 **under the authority delegated in this section shall become effective only if it complies with**  
8 **and is subject to all of the provisions of chapter 536, RSMo, and, if applicable, section**  
9 **536.028, RSMo. This section and chapter 536, RSMo, are nonseverable and if any of the**  
10 **powers vested with the general assembly pursuant to chapter 536, RSMo, to review, to**  
11 **delay the effective date or to disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently held**  
12 **unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or adopted**  
13 **after August 28, 2002, shall be void.**

14 **2. Subject to appropriation, the department of elementary and secondary education**  
15 **shall make available to eligible students up to one hundred, four-year urban flight**  
16 **scholarships in an amount that encompasses the total cost of eligible students' tuition and**  
17 **fees at a four-year college or university located in Missouri. Such scholarships shall be**  
18 **available to eligible students who enter and make a commitment to pursue a teacher**

19 education program approved by the department of elementary and secondary education  
20 and offered by a four-year college or university located in Missouri, or who after the  
21 completion of their baccalaureate degree enter teacher education and make a commitment  
22 to teach in a metropolitan or urban school district with a high at-risk student population,  
23 as defined by the department of elementary and secondary education. Every student  
24 receiving scholarships under the provisions of this section shall teach in an elementary or  
25 secondary public school in a metropolitan or urban school district with a high at-risk  
26 student population in this state for a period of two years for every one year they received  
27 a scholarship or the scholarship shall be treated as a loan to the student and interest at the  
28 rate of nine and one-half percent per year shall be charged upon the unpaid balance of the  
29 amount received from the date the student ceases to teach until the amount received is paid  
30 back to the state. In order to provide for the servicing of such loans, the department of  
31 elementary and secondary education may sell such loans to the higher education loan  
32 authority of the state of Missouri created under sections 173.350 to 173.445, RSMo. For  
33 each year that the student teaches, up to eight years, one-eighth of the amount which was  
34 received under this section shall be applied against the total amount received and shall not  
35 be subject to the repayment requirement of this section.

36       3. The department of elementary and secondary education shall have the power to  
37 and shall defer interest and principal payments under certain circumstances, which shall  
38 include, but need not be limited to, the enrollment in a graduate program or service in any  
39 branch of the armed forces of the United States.

40       4. If the number of applicants exceeds the number of scholarships or revenues  
41 available, the department of elementary and secondary education may consider the  
42 financial needs of the applicant.

43       5. The urban flight scholarship shall be funded in the following manner:

44       (1) Seventy-five percent of the urban flight scholarship shall be appropriated to the  
45 department of elementary and secondary education; and

46       (2) Twenty-five percent of the urban flight scholarship shall be funded by local  
47 school districts who participate in said program. Local school districts shall work with the  
48 department of elementary and secondary education in establishing criteria and guidelines  
49 for said program.